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PROGRESS IN CHINESE MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH WORK

PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES ON P'ING-T'AN ISLAND -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 21 Jan 54

On P'ing-t'an Island [25 31 N, 119 47E], the most important fishing area in Fukien Province, there was formerly only one western style hospital and it charged such high fees that peasants and fishermen could not afford its services. After liberation, the amount of money spent on public health services by the P'ing-t'an Hsien People's Government was increased each year. The sum invested in 1953 was 30 times as large as that invested in 1950. Besides the original hospital, which is now publicly operated, there are now: a hsien public health station, a hsien women's and children's clinic, three ch'u public health offices, and 22 women's and children's clinics and maternity centers in different localities in the hsien. A new infirmary is now being built.

In the first maternity center of the hsien, 197 babies were delivered in 1953 with no deaths from tetanus or other diseases. Compared with 1950, the medical personnel on the island not only has increased nearly six fold, but their professional skill and standards improved.

13,000 NEW CLINICS ESTABLISHED -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 21 Jan 54

Throughout China 13,000 joint Chinese-Western medical clinics have been established in cities, towns, and industrial and mining areas to give medical treatment and to carry on epidemic prevention activities.

In 1950, there were only 11 medical offices, 121 doctors, and no clinics in Peiping. At present, the nearly one million population of Peiping and the outlying area of the city is served by 38 joint clinics and more than 190 doctors. The majority of these clinics have established working relations with nearby middle and small-size industrial and commercial enterprises. Joint clinics in many rural areas send mobile medical units to treat peasants. According to available statistics, from the spring of 1951 to the summer of 1952, the joint clinics of Peiping gave various types of epidemic prevention injections to 132,000 people. When measles broke out in the spring of 1953, of 300 seriously ill children, not one died, because of the untiring efforts of the clinic doctors.

There are 163 clinics in the Northwest; and 4,232 in the Central-South Administrative Area.

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